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On the Missions of Dosaaf (Soviet Civil Defense) Organizations Relative to the Decisions of the 22nd Party Congress

/Translation from article published in Sovetskiy Patriot 24 December 1961 containing the Dosaaf Central Committee resolution on requirements for air defense training in the USSR/

"...At the present time, the priority mission of Dosaaf is the training of the entire population in measures of antiatomic, antichemical, and antibacteriological defense.

"The plenum of the Central Committee of Dosaaf USSR charges republic, kray, oblast, city and rayon Dosaaf committees and all Dosaaf orgnizations with increased responsibility in training the population to act under conditions attending the possible employment of weapons of mass destruction.

"The republic, kray, and oblast Dosaaf committees shall take measures to ensure the training of civilians in methods of defense against weapons of mass destruction. These committees, together with the civilian defense staffs (shtaby grazhdanskoy oborony) and other organizations, shall see that the population masters the skills of utilizing rescue and (other) available materials and very simple cover for self-defense against atomic, chemical, and bacteriological weapons, and is well-acquainted with measures and methods for defense in contaminated areas. More attention shall be paid to training the population in rural areas.

"Dosaaf committees shall considerably enlarge and improve the content of civilian defense propaganda, widely utilizing for this purpose, the press and radio, television, and radio broadcasting facilities, and local cultural-enlightenment establishments. The public shall be better enlisted in organizing training; the role of unofficial deputy chairmen for civilian defense of city and rayon Dosaaf committees shall be increased; and the network of civilian defense schools operating on a public basis (na obshchestvennykh nachalakh) shall be enlarged in every way. The work of the (civilian defense) sections under Dosaaf committees shall be improved; these sections shall be widely utilized in organizing the training of the population. The quality of training under the civilian defense programs shall be improved systematically by conducting practical exercises and competitions.

"The Central Committee of Dosaaf and Dosaaf committees shall take measures to increase the production of civilian defense films and of training and visual aids.

"The fundamental improvement of Dosaaf civilian defense activity requires the coordination of the work of Dosaaf committees and organizations with local soviets, trade unions, Komsomol organizations, and leaders of enterprises and institutions. Dosaaf committees are obliged to systematically inform party organizations and local soviets on the progress of civilian training in measures of antiatomic, antichemical, and antibacteriological defense, and to make concrete suggestions for its improvement...

"The work of each Dosaaf organization, club, school, and supervisory organ must be directed into active struggle to put into effect the CPSU Program and the instructions of the 22nd Party Congress on strengthening the defense capability of the country. This work should be evaluated on the basis of concrete results, including the quality and wide scale of training of technical cadres, development of mass sports work, increased sports achievements, training of the population under civilian defense programs, and enrollment of workers in Dosaaf ranks..."

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Excerpts From Secretary Rusk's News Conference Relative to Vietnam

[The New York Times, March 2, 1962]

SECRETARY RUSK-- I would like to open today with a statement on Vietnam. We have noted recent comments from Peiping, Moscow and Hanoi about the nature and purposes of American aid to Vietnam. I should like, therefore, to make a brief comment on that situation.

These comments from Communist capitals wholly neglect the fact that the Republic of Vietnam is under attack by Communist guerrillas who are directed, trained, supplied and reinforced by North Vietnam -- all in gross violation of the 1954 Geneva accords.

Irrefutable evidence of this illegal and aggressive activity has been made public; I can add that what is known publicly is strongly and conclusively reinforced by intelligence information.

United States military and economic assistance and technical advice are being extended to the Republic of Vietnam at its request to assist the Vietnamese people to maintain their independence against this aggression.

There have been other examples, in almost every continent, of this type of aggression. The United States is assisting with training, logistics, transportation and advisory personnel to enable the Government of Vietnam to deal with this conspirational effort to take over that country by violent means.

We have no combat units in that country and we have no desire for bases or other United States military advantages. All we want is that the Vietnamese be free to determine their own future.

In reference to the demand by the Communists that the co-chairmen of the 1954 Geneva conference and other countries concerned consult regarding Vietnam, the United States is always prepared to talk about situations which represent a threat to the peace, but what must be talked about is the root of the trouble; in this case it is the Communist aggression against Vietnam in disregard of the Geneva accords.

Kennedy Statement Quoted

The President made it clear last December, in responding to the Vietnamese request for assistance, that "our primary purpose is to help your people maintain their independence. If the Communist authorities in North Vietnam will stop their campaign to destroy the Republic of Vietnam, the measures we are taking to assist your defense efforts will no longer be necessary."

There is no threat to the peace of Southeast Asia from the south or from across the Pacific Ocean; the threat comes only from north from those who have declared their intention to force the rest of the world into their pattern, despite the fact that no people has yet chosen that pattern in a genuinely free election.

There can be peace overnight in Vietnam if those responsible for the aggression wish peace. The situation is just as simple as that.

.....

QUESTION-- Mr. Secretary, in reference to your opening statement on Vietnam, were you anticipating that there might at some stage be major power talks on the situation in Vietnam?

ANSWER -- I don't know today what might be in the future on the matter of talks. What I wanted to point out was that the issue there is extremely simple. There is no problem in South Vietnam if the other side would stay its hand, would leave Vietnam alone, would stop this infiltration of cadres and supplies and direction and control from the north. Then the problem of peace in Vietnam could be settled very quickly indeed.

I don't at the moment envisage any particular form of discussion on that matter.

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